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The result obtained when proper motion terms are included in the equation of condition is:—

$$\text{Parallax} = +0''.10 \pm 0''.02 \text{ (mean error)}$$

If instead of averaging the eight values, equations of condition be set up for the simultaneous determination of the parallax and the effect of chromatic dispersion, the above value of the parallax is reduced by $0''.003$ only.

I am fully aware of the uncertainty which attaches itself to investigations of stellar parallax, and realize the desirability of a thorough test of my results. An investigation of proper motion alone, however, does not seem likely to throw much light on the value of the parallax.

Most of the plates used in my parallax investigation were exposed during the year 1899 and 1900, and the series could not, therefore, form a good basis for an investigation of proper motion. This is explicitly stated on page 15.

The evidence of proper motion which was presented as a supplement to the parallax investigation rested mainly on observational material not used in the parallax determination. A note regarding this subject has been sent to the *Monthly Notices* of the Royal Astronomical Society.

B. L. NEWKIRK.

BERKELEY ASTRONOMICAL DEPARTMENT, March 31, 1906.

FROM THE STUDENTS' OBSERVATORY.

Arrangements have been completed for two courses in astronomy to be given at the summer session of the University of California. The courses are described in the announcement as follows:—

1. *Modern Astronomy*: An illustrated lecture course, aiming to present in non-technical language the fundamental facts and principles underlying the science of astronomy, with some of the methods and results of modern research.

2. *Observatory*: Lectures on practical astronomy and observatory work, illustrative of course 1, with the reflector, refractor, the photographic telescope, the zenith- and transit-telescope, sextant, etc.

These courses are to be given by Dr. NEWKIRK.

A. O. L.

During the current term the Berkeley Astronomical Department is conducting for the first time a course in the reduction and measurement of astronomical photographs, with an enrollment of four graduate students. The course is being given by Dr. NEWKIRK. With the completion of the photographic telescope with two portrait lenses and the acquirement of a Repsold measuring-apparatus, the department now has this branch of instruction thoroughly organized.

A. O. LEUSCHNER.

THE SPECTROSCOPIC BINARY, *U Aquilae*.

In the fall of 1905 several spectrograms of the variable star *U Aquilae* were obtained with the one-prism spectrograph. Rough measures give a velocity-curve of double amplitude of about 25^{km} and a period coinciding with the period of light variation, which is 7.02 days.

S. ALBRECHT.

March 26, 1906.

THE AWARD OF THE GOLD MEDAL OF THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY TO PROFESSOR W. W. CAMPBELL.

In the last number of these *Publications* brief mention was made of the award of this medal to Dr. CAMPBELL. Since then an advance copy has been received of the address of Mr. W. H. MAW, President of the Royal Astronomical Society, in making the award and of the response of Mr. WHITELAW REID, American Ambassador, in accepting it in the medalist's name.

Mr. MAW's address, after a brief sketch of the history of the determination of the radial velocities of the stars and of the discovery of spectroscopic binary stars, gives in more detail Dr. CAMPBELL's contributions to the development of these departments of astronomical research. After speaking of the Mills spectrograph, designed by Dr. CAMPBELL, of the great number of spectrograms taken with it, and of the fact that seventy-five, or more than one half, of the known spectroscopic binaries stand to the credit of the Lick Observatory (including the D. O. Mills Expedition to the Southern Hemisphere), twenty-nine being discovered by Professor CAMPBELL himself, and five more by him in conjunction with another observer, Mr. MAW continues:—